

(c) the steps taken by Government to settle the dispute ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SINCHAI AUR VIDYUT MANTRI) (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). The Madhya Pradesh Government have sent the Bansagar Project for acceptance by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the developmental plans of Madhya Pradesh.

The Government of Bihar have protested against the Bansagar Project as proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh involving diversion of the Sone waters to the Tons river, on the ground that it will affect the large irrigation system in Bihar from the Sone Lower down where the position of supplies is stated to be already critical.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have been urging that the Bansagar Project is the only source of irrigation to the famine stricken plateau areas in Mirzapur district and that the Bansagar Project proposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government should be modified to make provision for irrigation in this area also.

Efforts are being made by engineers of the Central Government in consultation with engineers of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar Governments to evolve revised proposals for the Bansagar Project which might be acceptable to all the three States.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH : May I know the volume of water the proposed dam will contain and whether the dam will dry up some of the rivers in Bihar ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Exact quantity of water varies from place to place. I don't know at what point the hon. Member wants this information. The river Sone passes through 3 States, Madhya Pradesh, U. P. and Bihar. We should know the requirements of various States before we take up the project.

SHRI D. N. TIWARI : Has any representation been made by the Bihar Government about this project ? If so, what is it that they have asked for ?

DR. K. L. RAO : The Bihar Government has even passed a resolution in the Assembly that the project in Madhya Pradesh should not be taken up, and the other States have also sent representations. But whenever three States are concerned, we must first discuss with all the three States and try to arrive at a solution which is acceptable to all.

श्री रामदेव सिंह : क्या भारत सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की सरकारों के मंत्रियों के साथ बैठ कर इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ निर्णय किया है ?

DR. K. L. RAO : Not yet ; at the moment, the matter is being discussed between the engineers, and I hope to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers in the next one or two months.

श्री नाथूराम अहिरवार : अभी जितनी भी मध्य प्रदेश की योजनायें चलती हैं उन में हमेशा अड़ंगा डाला जाता है और उन्हें खटाई में डाल दिया जाता है जैसे कि वह नर्मदा बांध योजना ट्रिव्युनल में दे दी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बाण सागर योजना को जिसे कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रारम्भ कर दिया है तो क्या उस योजना को भी केन्द्रीय सरकार खटाई में डालने जा रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य नें तो क्वेश्चन की और भी कम्प्लीकेट कर दिया ।

Economic Recovery of West Bengal

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*197. **SHRI VISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA :**
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRI)** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have initiated any plan for economic recovery of West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the different schemes that have been drawn up ; and

(c) the time by which that scheme will be put into effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIC VIKAS MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Some of the measures have already been put into effect and there is no time-limit as such fixed for putting into effect other measures.

Statement

(b) The following steps have been taken/ are being taken to improve the industrial and economic climate in West Bengal :

(i) Government of India have recently set up the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India Ltd., with headquarters at Calcutta, mainly with a view to tackling the financial and other problems of industrial units in the country, particularly in West Bengal, to begin with. The paid-up capital of the Corporation would be Rs. 10 crores. It will deal with the problems relating to rehabilitation of sick and revival of closed industrial units.

(ii) Government of West Bengal have sanctioned a package of incentives such as refund of sales-tax, interest free long term loans, refund of entry taxes in specified cases and assistance from the State Financial Institutions for the sick/closed units.

(iii) Provision has been made in the Import Policy for 1971-72 for advance allocation of imported raw materials to closed industrial units in West Bengal, to enable them to re-start their manufacturing activities.

(iv) Government are also examining certain measures with a view to developing the Haldira and Calcutta Metropolitan area in order to improve the industrial climate there.

(v) 8 Districts have been selected in West Bengal for purposes of giving concessional finance from financing institutions to industries started there. Out of these districts viz.

Purulia is eligible for 10% Central grant/subsidy on the fixed capital investment for industries located there.

SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : The economy of West Bengal is on the verge of collapse and more than 124 industrial units remain closed down. The unemployment figure has crossed the 2 million mark and the production in the existing units has not been up to the mark at all. I would, therefore, ask the hon. Minister what steps Government have taken to get the closed units opened, and to bring about industrial peace in the State.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : All possible steps are being taken. We have recently up an Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India, which is specially looking after such units in Calcutta and West Bengal.

SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : May I know what Government have done to save the industries from the existing power famine ?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : That question is also being looked into with the State Government.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : May I know whether any particular scheme has been evolved for the purpose of employment of the engineers who are now unemployed in West Bengal, and if so, what that scheme is ?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : There is no particular scheme, but in a general way, they will be helped.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : My hon. friend has raised a very pertinent question about the closure of industrial units in West Bengal. I would like to know whether any meeting has been held with the employees either by the hon. Minister of State or his colleague the Labour Minister, to see that all the industrial units are opened, so that the growing unemployment problem in Calcutta and other places comes to an end ;

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : Many meetings have been already held not only by the Central Minister but also by the State

Ministers. A high-level committee has also been appointed under the chairmanship of Shri K. C. Pant, which is also going into these details.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : From the statement, we find that some steps have been taken to improve the economic and industrial climate of West Bengal. Can this be done in view of the deteriorating law and order situation in the State? If not, what steps do Government propose to take in consultation with the West Bengal Government to first restore law and order?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a hypothetical question—not allowed.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : In para 5 of the statement, it has been mentioned that 8 districts have been selected in West Bengal for giving concessional finance. Which are these 8 districts?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : One is Purulia. As for the rest, I require notice.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Is it a fact that industries dependent on items of raw material whose distribution is controlled are suffering from shortage of such raw material? If so, what remedial measures are proposed to be taken to give them their full requirements of these raw materials?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : As has been pointed out in the statement, provision has been made in the import policy for advance allocation of imported raw materials.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : With reference to the same part of the statement, does this advance allocation of imported raw materials imply any priorities also because in this very House in the last session, Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury stated explicitly that as far as the question of allocation of steel was concerned—because a very large number of the units closed are in the engineering industry—priority would be given and advance allocation could be made? But does it imply that priority of actual supplies will be forthcoming, because we know that these industries are lying closed and every time it is said that steel is not available?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : Is the

reference to indigenous steel or imported steel?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Imported steel.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : Imported raw materials of which advance allocation is made perhaps include steel also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Does allocation include priority of actual supply? Advance allocation means nothing.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : How can there be advance allocation in that sense?

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

SHRI D. D. DESAI : For clearance of all Questions, I suggest that firstly answers be given to the members tabling the questions. The surplus time left may be apportioned to further questions on questions and replies to other Members.

MR. SPEAKER : I quite agree.

SHRI R. V. BADE : How much more does Government propose to invest because the West Bengal Chief Minister has asked for Rs. 100 crores for investment in the industrial development of West Bengal.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA : The Industrial Reconstruction Corporation has been set up to look into these things.

चण्डीगढ़ में पाये गये मतपत्रों की जांच

* 198. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्या विधि और न्याय मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चण्डीगढ़ में बड़ी संख्या में पाये गये मत-पत्र के बारे में कार्रवाई जा रही जांच के परिणामों का पूरा व्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि रद्दी कागज के ठेकेदार की ओर से आधे से ज्यादा उक्त मतपत्रों को रेल के माल डिब्बों में मध्य प्रदेश की एक कागज मिल को भेजा गया था ?